

Oakland Laundry Burns; Fireman Hurt; Loss \$25,000

TRIB C JUN 30 1935

A spectacular three-alarm fire late yesterday partly destroyed the three-story frame structure occupied by the De Luxe Laundry at 1745 East 14th Street, causing damage estimated at \$25,000,000 and injuries to one fireman. Hundreds of spectators were attracted to the scene of the blaze.

Joe Wilson, battalion chief's operator, was struck on the arm by a falling piece of burning timber which hurtled from the 75-foot tower.

The laundry, located at 18th Avenue and East 14th Street, was the site of the former Brooklyn Brewery, a landmark of preprohibition days.

LUTKE IN CHARGE

Fire Chief William Lutke took personal charge of fighting the flames, which apparently originated on the second floor of the three-story tower. The blaze gained considerable headway before being discovered.

August Guige, proprietor of the laundry, led 28 employees from the flaming plant after turning in the alarm. Eight drivers of the firm's delivery trucks sped the vehicles from the yard into the safety of neighboring streets when the blaze was discovered.

Cordons of police kept the hundreds of spectators in roped-off safety zones and rerouted street-car traffic.

TRAFFIC BLOCKED

Automobile traffic on East 14th Street was blocked for an hour.

Police Inspector Fred R. Barbeau estimated the damage at \$25,000. Possibility of spontaneous combustion as the cause of the fire was being investigated by authorities.

A number of chemical tanks and cans of inflammable cleaning and laundry liquids were stored near the second floor, where the blaze is said to have originated. The Wesco Blower and Pipe Company's plant, adjoining the laundry, also was damaged slightly by the flames.